UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.108
6 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 77 (e)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:
ENVIRONMENT

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ioan Barac (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.88

International cooperation in the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental threats and in assistance in cases of environmental emergency

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 44/224 of 22 December 1989 on international cooperation in the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental threats and in assistance in cases of environmental emergency,

Reaffirming its resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Noting decision 16/37 of 31 May 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on early warning and forecasting of environmental emergencies and decision 16/9 of 31 May 1991 on a United Nations centre for urgent environmental assistance, in which the Governing Council, inter alia, endorsed the proposal of the Executive Director to proceed with the development of a United Nations centre for urgent environmental assistance and decided to establish such a centre on an experimental basis at the beginning of 1992 for a period of eighteen months,

Recognizing the importance of providing the centre for urgent environmental assistance, to be established on an experimental basis, with

information on expertise and appropriate equipment, which could be utilized for dealing with environmental emergencies,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental emergencies and relevant parts of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme of its sixteenth session,

1. Stresses the need to strengthen international cooperation in the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental threats and the rendering of assistance in cases of environmental emergency;

2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental emergencies 1/ and invites the Secretary-General to convey it to the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

1/ UNEP/GC.16/17, annex.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.109
6 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 77 (f)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:
DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ioan Barac (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.81

Combating desertification and drought

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, by which it approved the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, 1/ and all its subsequent resolutions on the subject,

Recalling also its resolutions 44/228 of 22 December 1989 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and 45/212 of 21 December 1990 on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind, as well as its decision 44/437 of 19 December 1989 on countries stricken by desertification and drought,

Concerned at the seriousness of the problem of drought and desertification in many regions, and noting the relevance of the experiences of various countries in combating land degradation in an integrated manner,

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1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Desertification, Nairobi, 29 August-9 September 1977 (A/CONF.74/36), chap. I.

1. Reaffirms its resolutions 44/172 A and B of 19 December 1989, concerning the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, in which the Assembly invited the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, through its Preparatory Committee, to accord high priority to desertification control;

2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in 1989 and 1990, including its implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region, 2/ and requests the Secretary-General to forward that report, as well as the report requested by the Assembly in paragraph 7 of its resolution 44/172 A, 3/ to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at its fourth session;

3. Endorses decisions 16/22 A to E of 31 May 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, 4/ and decision 91/41 of 25 June 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme; 5/

4. Also endorses decision 3/16 of 4 September 1991 of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference, 6/ in which the Committee requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to submit to the Committee at its fourth session a report on the financial, technical and institutional needs to implement effectively and efficiently the decisions of the Conference regarding desertification control;

5. Welcomes the priority that will be given to the consideration of desertification by the Preparatory Committee at its fourth session;

6. Welcomes the efforts to combat desertification and drought undertaken by African subregional organizations, such as the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), the Inter-Governmental Authority for Drought and Development (IGADD), the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC), the Ministerial Conference for a Joint Policy to Combat Desertification (COMIDES), the Arab Maghreb Union (UMA), and the setting up of the Sahel and Sahara observatory;

2/ A/46/380-E/1991/142.

3/ A/46/157-E/1991/55.

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/46/25), annex.

5/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 13 (E/1991/34), annex I.

6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/46/48), vol. II, annex I.

7. Also welcomes the continued and substantial technical and financial assistance by the the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region at the national and regional level in their preparations for the Conference, and encourages the Office to continue and intensify its assistance in that area;

8. Invites the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, within the framework of United Nations Development Programme round tables and/or the World Bank consultative group, to assist the Governments of the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region in organizing sectoral/thematic round tables in order to mobilize adequate resources for the protection and sound management of natural resources to arrest and reverse the process of desertification;

9. Requests the Secretary-General, in light of the decisions of the Conference regarding desertification and drought, to highlight any requirements necessary to implement those decisions in a report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.110
6 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 79

PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MANKIND

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.80

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of the operative paragraphs of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.80, the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee should hold a fifth session at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 18 to 28 February 1992, with the possibility of the Committee holding a short resumed session in New York in April 1992 (operative paragraph 3);

(b) Reiterate its request to the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, on behalf of the Committee, to submit a report to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992 on the outcome of the negotiations, as well as on possible future steps in the field of climate change (operative paragraph 7);

(c) Request the Secretary-General, in the light of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development regarding the framework convention on climate change, to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the resolution and on possible future requirements in relation to climate change (operative paragraph 8).

B. Relationship of requests to the proposed programme of work

2. The activities proposed in the draft resolution are related to major programme IV, International economic cooperation for development, programme 16, Environment, subprogramme 10, Environmental management measures of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1993. These activities have not been programmed in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

C. Activities by which the proposed request would be implemented

3. According to its report (A/AC.237/12), the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee would continue negotiations, in the course of its fifth session and the resumed fifth session, on various aspects of the framework convention on climate change, with a view to adopting it in time for it to be opened for signature during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. A report on the outcome of the negotiations and possible future steps would be submitted by the Chairman of the Committee to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in June 1992. The framework convention would be opened for signature by Member States at the Conference. An ad hoc expert group meeting to provide additional expertise relating to the mechanisms of the convention, including modalities for transfer of financial resources and technology, would be conducted in Geneva in 1992. A number of follow-up activities, including promotion of ratification and entry into force of the convention, might be required during the second half of 1992 and beyond. The ad hoc secretariat of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, under the overall guidance of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation and in collaboration with other programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, would continue to provide substantive support to the entire negotiating process, facilitating participation therein, particularly that of developing countries, and promoting public awareness of the process through communication with information media and non-governmental organizations. After the convention is signed, the ad hoc secretariat would assist Member States in the process of entering the convention into force. The secretariat would also assist the Secretary-General in the preparation of his reports to the General Assembly, as required.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme of work for 1992-1993

4. The activities called for by the draft resolution would require the creation of new programme narratives under section 11 F, "Protection of global climate", of section 11, Development and international economic cooperation, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, as follows:

> 11 F.1 Particular attention will be given to the monitoring and promotion of a single negotiating process to prepare an effective framework convention on climate change and relating legal instruments

established by the General Assembly in resolution 45/212 of 21 December 1990. Substantive support will be provided to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee with a view to having the framework convention ready for signature during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992. Follow-up activities promoting ratification and entry into force of the convention will be undertaken. A report on the programme implementation and possible future requirements in relation to climate change will be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

E. Financial arrangements and estimated resource requirements for the proposed activities

5. By its resolution 45/212, paragraph 20, the General Assembly decided, inter alia, "that the negotiating process shall be funded through existing United Nations budgetary resources, without negatively affecting its programmed activities, and through voluntary contributions to a trust fund established specifically for that purpose for the duration of the negotiations and administered by the head of the ad hoc secretariat under the authority of the Secretary-General of the United Nations". This resolution was adopted without a statement of programme budget implications. Accordingly, the Secretariat support to the negotiating process has been provided through a number of ad hoc and specific arrangements. By December 1991, the staffing of the ad hoc secretariat was as follows: three staff members from the World Meteorological Organization (one D-1, two GS), three from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) (one D-1, one P-4, one GS) and four (including the Head at the D-2 level, one P-3, one P-2, one GS) from other parts of the United Nations Secretariat. The total cost of this supporting secretariat - staff and other expenses - amounted to $2,182,000 in 1991. In addition, the conference servicing of four sessions of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee - amounting to $1,522,000 at full cost - has been provided from within the overall conference-servicing capacity of the Organization under section 29, Department of Conference Services. Also, a trust fund for the negotiating process has been established for the financing of operation other than staff costs. Contributions to the fund have not yet been received. Finally, a special voluntary trust fund to support participation of developing countries in the negotiating process has been established. In 1991, contributions to the voluntary trust fund amounted to $1,068,000 and covered all the expenses relating to the participation of developing countries in the four sessions of the Committee. A balance of $50,000 is expected by year-end.

6. The current ad hoc arrangements for the financing by the regular budget of the United Nations of part of the secretariat of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee cannot be prolonged. They are too precarious to ensure a proper servicing of an activity whose importance is being reiterated by the General Assembly through draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.80. It is, first, proposed to present the cost of this activity under a new subsection 11 F, Protection of global climate, under section 11, Development and international economic cooperation. Secondly, it is proposed to finance the ad hoc

secretariat during the process of the preparation and follow-up of the Convention primarily from the United Nations regular budget. The following resources would be required in 1992:

	$	$
(a) Staff requirements		
General temporary assistance (equivalent to one D-2 for 12 w/m; one D-1 for 12 w/m; one P-5 for 12 w/m; one P-4 for 12 2/m; one P-3 for 12 w/m; one P-2 for 12/2m; GS for 60 w/m)		949 000
(b) Other requirements (non-staff)		
Consultants (six w/m)	48 000	
Overtime	4 100	
Expert group (10 experts)	35 000	
Travel of staff	149 000	
Communications	35 000	
Hospitality	6 000	
General operating expenses	20 000	
Supplies and materials	10 000	
Furniture and equipment	40 000	347 000
Total		1 296 000

7. In addition, the posts currently financed by the World Meteorological Organization (one D-1, two GS), by UNEP (one P-4, one GS) and under bilateral arrangements (one L-4, two L-2) would remain available at least through June 1992.

8. The tasks of the staff referred to under "general temporary assistance" in paragraph 6 above would be the following:

(a) The D-2 post would be for the head of the ad hoc secretariat;

(b) The D-1 post would be for a deputy head who would also be responsible for the organization and supervision of the substantive work and for the liaison with Member States and other participants in the negotiating process;

(c) The P-5 post would be for a senior economic officer who would be responsible for organizing analyses related to the economic aspects of climate change;

(d) The P-4 post would be for the legal officer who would be responsible for analysis, drafting and advice on legal aspects of the framework convention and related legal instruments;

(e) The P-3 post would be for an officer who would assist the head of the ad hoc secretariat and be responsible for documentation, conference planning and liaison with the Department of Conference Services and the Office for Political and General Assembly Affairs and Secretariat Services on issues of servicing the sessions of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee;

(f) The P-2 post would be for an officer who would assist the economic and legal officers.

9. In relation to the meetings in 1992 of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, as proposed in operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution, it should be noted that in conformity with General Assembly resolution 40/243, United Nations bodies shall meet at their respective headquarters. Bearing in mind that the established headquarters of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee is Geneva, the holding of the fifth session and the resumed fifth session of the Committee in New York would require an exception to the arrangements established by resolution 40/243.

10. Should the General Assembly grant such an exception, the conference-servicing costs of the two sessions would be in the amount of $915,500, as follows:

1. Fifth session of the International Negotiating Committee
(New York, 18-28 February 1992)

		$
A.	Pre-session documentation (200 pages, 4 documents: ACEFRS)	218 700
B.	Meeting services (Interpretation: ACEFRS)	96 600
C.	In-session documentation (100 pages, 10 documents: ACEFRS)	111 500
D.	Post-session documentation (50 pages, 2 documents: ACEFRS)	55 100
	Total	481 900

2. Fifth resumed session of the International Negotiating Committee
(New York, five days in April 1992)

		$
A.	Pre-session documentation (200 pages, 4 documents: ACEFRS)	218 700
B.	Meeting services (Interpretation: ACEFRS)	48 300
C.	In-session documentation (50 pages, 2 documents: ACEFRS)	111 500
D.	Post-session documentation (50 pages, 2 documents: ACEFRS)	55 100
	Total	433 600
	Grand total	915 500

11. The costs of the participation of developing countries at the fifth session and the fifth resumed session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee are estimated at $810,000.

12. Possible requirements for the year 1993 would be estimated at the end of 1992 and, if necessary, submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

F. Potential for absorption

Conference-servicing costs

13. As indicated in paragraph 10 above, the estimates of conference-servicing costs totalling $915,500 would be provided from the overall conference-servicing capacity of the Organization. Those estimates are based on the theoretical assumption that no part of the conference-servicing requirements would be met from within the permanent conference-servicing capacity under section 32 (Conference services) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 and that additional resources would be required for temporary assistance for meetings. The extent to which the Organization's permanent capacity needs to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources can only be determined in the light of the proposed calendar of conferences for the biennium 1992-1993. As indicated in section 32, paragraph 32.5 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, however, the level of resources for temporary assistance for meetings in 1992-1993 was estimated, on the basis of previous experience, to accommodate not only meetings that are programmed but also additional meetings. In other words, provision was made in the proposed programme budget not only for meetings known at the time of the budget preparation but also for meetings that would be authorized subsequently, provided that the number and the distribution of meetings and conferences in the biennium 1992-1993 were consistent with the pattern of meetings in the past years. On that basis, it is estimated that no additional resources would be required under section 32 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 as a result of the adoption of the draft resolution.

Non-conference servicing requirements

14. The costs of the activities of the ad hoc secretariat in 1992 would amount to $1,296,000, as estimated in paragraph 6 above. Part of these costs could be financed from the trust fund for the negotiating process. In 1992, contributions of $90,000 to the fund are expected. The remaining costs, $1,206,000, would represent the additional requirements to be charged against the regular budget and treated in the context of the guidelines for the use of the contingency fund.

15. The cost of the participation of the developing countries in the negotiating process ($810,000) would have to be financed from the voluntary fund under the arrangements established by resolution 45/212 (para.10). Additional contributions are required and expected.

G. Contingency fund

16. It will be recalled that, under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the proposed programme budget. Also,

each statement of programme budget implications and each proposed revised estimates should contain alternatives to the financing from the contingency fund of the proposed new activities through redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or modification of existing activities. In this particular case, no activity has been identified for termination, deferral, curtailment or modification in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

H. Conclusions

17. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the proposed programme of work would be added under a new subsection 11 F. An additional appropriation in the amount of $1,206,000 would be required under section 11 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 in connection with activities of the ad hoc secretariat, subject to the guidelines for the operation and use of the contingency fund.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.111
6 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 77 (e)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:
ENVIRONMENT

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ioan Barac (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft decision A/C.2/46/L.89

Report of the Commonwealth Group of Experts on the Impact of Global Economic and Political Change on the Development Process

The General Assembly:

(a) Takes note of the executive summary of the report of the Commonwealth Group of Experts on the Impact of Global Economic and Political Change on the Development Process entitled "Change for the better: global change and economic development"; 1/

(b) Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the President of the Economic and Social Council, to convene, within existing resources, not excluding voluntary contributions, during the second regular session of 1992 of the Council, a meeting devoted to an informal exchange of views on the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Commonwealth Group of Experts;

(c) Invites the President of the Economic and Social Council to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the views expressed during the informal exchange of views to be held during the second regular session of 1992 of the Council.

1/ A/C.2/46/12, annex, and Add.1.

91-47869 4009Z (E)

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.112
9 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 78

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.75

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. By draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.75, the General Assembly would decide that the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development should be held at United Nations Headquarters from 2 March to 3 April 1992.

2. The convening of the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee is envisaged in section 11C (United Nations Conference on Environment and Development) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. However, the draft resolution indicates that the session would be extended by one week (from four weeks to five weeks) and that more meetings would be held during the session than was originally envisaged. The total number of meetings of the Preparatory Committee would be increased by 78. The extension by one week and increase in the number of meetings represents an additional cost of $391,000 for conference servicing, bringing the total cost for such servicing to $1,012,900. This total cost will be treated in accordance with existing procedures as part of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. The extension of the session by one week also represents an additional cost of $34,500 for the daily subsistence allowance of the 25 representatives of the secretariat of the Conference. Every effort will be made to absorb this additional cost from the requested appropriation under section 11C of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

3. The draft resolution also includes provisions for the participation of representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate, in the capacity of observers, in the sessions and the work of all international conferences, as well as of representatives of the national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity in its region. The travel and per diem costs for the representatives of the two national liberation movements (the African National Congress of South Africa and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania) would amount to $19,200. This would also be absorbed from within the overall budget of section 11C. With regard to the representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization, it is understood that this organization would be represented by its office in New York.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.113
9 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 77 (a)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:
TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

United Nations/International Maritime Organization Conference of Plenipotentiaries on a Draft Convention on Maritime Liens and Mortgages

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.91

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under the terms of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.91, the General Assembly would decide that a United Nations/International Maritime Organization Conference of Plenipotentiaries on a Draft Convention on Maritime Liens and Mortgages should be convened at Geneva during the first half of 1993 for a period of three weeks.

2. This Conference is part of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 under section 15 (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development). No modification of the programme of work or additional resources would be required under section 15.

3. The same Conference, however, does not appear in the draft calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 1992-1993 (A/46/32, annex II), currently under consideration by the General Assembly. The full conference-servicing cost would be $1,439,000 (pre-session documentation: $361,000; meeting servicing: $643,000; in-session documentation: $176,000; post-session documentation: $179,000; Office of General Services: $80,000). All efforts would be made to absorb those costs within section 32 (Conference services), in accordance with current budgetary practice.

4. The same resolution also provides for participation in this Conference of representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate, in the capacity of observers, in the sessions and the work of all international conferences, as well as of representatives of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity in its region (the African National Congress of South Africa and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania), in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 3237 (XXIX) and 3280 (XXIX). The cost of the participation of the national liberation movements would amount to $14,700 and would be covered under section 15 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. The Palestine Liberation Organization would be represented by its office at Geneva.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.114
10 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Report of the Committee for Development Planning: criteria for identifying the least developed countries

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.101

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of the operative paragraphs of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.101, the General Assembly would:

(a) Note with appreciation the new criteria for identifying the least developed among the developing countries and the graduation rules recommended by the Committee for Development Planning, 1/ and request the Committee to consider further possible improvements in the criteria and their applications and report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session through the Economic and Social Council;

(b) Request the Committee for Development Planning to undertake every three years a general review of the list of low-income countries, with a view to identifying which of those countries should qualify for inclusion in, or should be graduated from, the list of the least developed countries, and to present that review to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

(c) Decide that the General Assembly should act on the recommendations of the Committee for Development Planning for the inclusion of a country in the list of the least developed countries, provided the country concerned had signified its consent;

(d) Stress that there was need for a smooth transition of the countries graduating out of the group of the least developed countries, with a view to avoiding disruption in their development plans, programmes and projects, and invite Governments, international organizations and other concerned parties to take appropriate steps to ensure such a smooth transition;

(e) Decide, in that context, that the graduation of a country would be completed following a transitional period of three years, which would commence immediately after the General Assembly had taken note of the finding of the Committee for Development Planning to graduate that country;

(f) Endorse the recommendations of the Committee for Development Planning regarding the inclusion of Cambodia, Solomon Islands, Zaire and Zambia in the list of least developed countries; 2/

(g) Take note of the finding of the Committee for Development Planning to graduate Botswana from the list of the least developed countries and decide that its graduation from the list would be completed following a transition period of three years, in accordance with [paragraph 1 (e) above];

(h) Request the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to report to the Conference at its eighth session on the resource and other implications of the application of the new criteria for identifying the least developed countries for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

(i) Request the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to follow his above-mentioned report to the Conference with a report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the same subject.

B. Relationship of the proposed requests to the medium-term plan and proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993

2. The requests contained in paragraph 1 (h) and (i) above relate to subprogramme 1 (Least developed countries) of programme 15 (Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries and special programmes) of major programme IV (International economic cooperation for development) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 3/, and to section 15 (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. 4/

3. Provision is made under section 1 (Overall policy-making, direction and coordination) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 for travel of representatives of Member States that are least developed countries to sessions of the General Assembly. This activity is not programmed.

C. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

4. As regards the requests contained in paragraph 1 (h) and (i) above, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would request the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to:

(a) Report to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session on the resource and other implications of the application of the new criteria for identifying the least developed countries for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

(b) Follow the above-mentioned report with a report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the same subject.

5. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1798 (XVII) of 11 December 1962, as amended by Assembly resolutions 2245 (XXI) of 20 December 1966 and 2489 (XXIII) and 2491 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968, travel expenses but not subsistence expenses have been paid by the Organization for not more than five representatives, including alternate representatives, of each Member State attending a regular session of the Assembly and for one representative or alternate representative attending a special or emergency special session of the Assembly. Recommendation 6 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, however, provided that reimbursement of travel costs for representatives of Member States attending the Assembly should be limited to the least developed countries, 5/ and, by resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, the Assembly decided that the recommendations as agreed upon and as contained in the report of the Group should be implemented. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the inclusion of Cambodia, Solomon Islands, Zaire and Zambia in the list of the least developed countries would involve the payment of the travel expenses of their representatives and alternate representatives, as indicated above.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993

6. As indicated in paragraph 2 above, activities in this area have been programmed under section 15 (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. Consequently, no modification would be required should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution.

7. As indicated in paragraph 3 above, provision under section 1 of the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993 for travel of representatives of least developed countries to sessions of the General Assembly is not programmed. Consequently, no modification would be required.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

8. The activities outlined in paragraph 4 above are within the scope of activities of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, for which financial provision is made under section 15 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. Consequently, it is anticipated that there will be no additional requirements in this respect.

9. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, Cambodia, Solomon Islands, Zaire and Zambia would be entitled to reimbursement of the travel costs of their representatives to the forty-seventh and forty-eighth sessions of the General Assembly. Based on current air fares, and assuming a full use of this entitlement, estimated additional costs of $217,277 would arise during the biennium 1992-1993.

F. Potential for absorption

10. The provision under section 1 of the proposed programme budget relates to travel to sessions of the General Assembly by representatives of the 40 Member States that are currently designated as least developed countries and it is not anticipated that the estimated additional cost of $217,277 could be absorbed within the proposed appropriation.

G. Indication of additional requirements

11. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.101, it is estimated that an additional requirement of $217,277 would arise.

H. Contingency fund

12. It will be recalled that, under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the proposed programme budget. Under that procedure, if additional expenditures are proposed that exceed the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned can be implemented only through redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities will have to be deferred to a subsequent biennium. A consolidated statement of all programme budget implications and revised estimates will be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of its current session.

13. No activity has been identified for termination, deferral, curtailment or modification under section 1 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. Should it not prove possible to meet the required costs from the contingency fund, the implementation of the draft resolution may have to be

postponed, as provided for in the criteria for the use of the contingency fund, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987.

I. Summary

14. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.101, it is estimated that an additional appropriation of $217,277 would be required under section 1 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 11 (E/1991/32), chap. V.

2/ Ibid., para. 256.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

4/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

5/ Ibid., Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49), para. 21.

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Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.115
10 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 82

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Programme budget implications of draft resolutions A/C.2/46/L.66 and A/C.2/46/L.69 and Corr.1

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under the terms of draft resolutions A/C.2/46/L.66 and A/C.2/46/L.69 and Corr.1, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to undertake a number of specific studies and prepare related reports in the context of the triennial review of operational activities for consideration by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

2. This activity is part of the programme of work proposed under section 11A (Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. 1/ However, some of the precise aspects of the requests made in the two draft resolutions are not part of this programme of work. This is the case in particular for the studies and reports requested in section IV (Training) of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.66.

3. The total additional cost of the requests made in the two draft resolutions would be $340,000, with the following breakdown:

		$
(a)	Consultants	250 000
(b)	General temporary assistance	75 000
(c)	Operational costs	15 000

4. In the proposed programme budget under section 11A, an amount of $80,000 could be used for this purpose. The difference, i.e. $260,000, would be sought from extrabudgetary resources. Additional contributions to the Trust Fund for Case Studies on the Functioning of the Operational Activities for Development of the United Nations System would be required. On this assumption, the implementation of the proposed draft resolutions would not require additional funding from the regular budget.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.116
10 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 77 (h)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Bozorgmehr Ziaran (Islamic Republic of Iran) on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.23

Science and technology for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/14 A of 26 October 1989 on the end-of-decade review of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development and its revitalization,

Recalling also the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 1/ and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 2/ in which the Assembly stressed in particular the need for developed countries and international organizations to support the efforts of developing countries to create and develop endogenous capacities in the area of scientific and technological capability,

Recalling that the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, at its thirty-seventh session, decided that building and

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1/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

2/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

strengthening national capacity for the transfer and adaptation of technology for development should be one of the areas on which the United Nations Development Programme should focus attention, 3/

Taking note of the report of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development on its eleventh session, 4/

Reaffirming that knowledge is the crucial determinant of progress and that science and technology has a critical role in the reactivation of development, especially in developing countries,

Conscious that new and emerging technologies, such as information technologies and new materials, are radically shifting the comparative advantages between different countries, thereby constituting both an opportunity and a challenge to policy makers and international organizations,

Recognizing that access to and capacity to generate environmentally sound technologies is essential for the full incorporation of environmental concerns into national development strategies,

Recognizing that the United Nations should play a central role in the enhancement of assistance to build the endogenous capacity of developing countries in science and technology and to facilitate their access to technologies on favourable terms,

Reaffirming the role of the Centre for Science and Technology for Development as the focal point, inter alia, for technological assessment within the United Nations system and, where possible, for relations with Governments and non-governmental organizations concerning technological assessment activity in Member States,

Recognizing that the role and relevance of the United Nations in this critically important area needs further enhancement and strengthening to respond more forcefully to the emerging needs of developing countries,

Bearing in mind resolution 45/264 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields and without prejudice to its implementation,

1. Endorses resolution 1 (XI) of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development; 5/

3/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 9 (E/1990/9).

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 37 (A/46/37).

5/ Ibid., chap. II.

2. Urges that national efforts and international development cooperation, in particular through supportive financial and technical assistance from donor Governments, multilateral lending institutions and international agencies, be intensified and strengthened towards endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, taking into account the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and on the basis of the discussion by the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development of the substantive theme of its twelfth session, to submit to the General Assembly, at its forty-eighth session, a comprehensive, analytical report on ways and means of strengthening endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in the developing countries;

4. Requests the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development at its twelfth session, or possible successor arrangements, after reviewing the report of the Secretary-General on the matter, submitted to it in response to resolution 1 (XI), to submit to the General Assembly, at its forty-eighth session, concrete proposals for organizing a more effective coalition of resources to meet the scientific and technological needs of developing countries.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.117
10 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 86

TRAINING AND RESEARCH: UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Bozorgmehr Ziaran (Islamic Republic of Iran), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.77

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/172 of 5 December 1986, 42/197 of 11 December 1987, 43/201 of 20 December 1988, 44/175 of 19 December 1989 and 45/219 of 21 December 1990,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General, 1/ the high-level independent consultant, 2/ the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research 3/ and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions 4/ and taking into account the statements made before the Second Committee on this issue,

Recognizing the continuing importance and relevance of the interdisciplinary training functions within the United Nations system,

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1/ A/46/619.

2/ A/46/482, annex.

3/ See A/46/619.

4/ A/46/624.

Noting that the continuing lack of a sufficiently broad base of countries providing financial support to the Institute leaves the General Fund of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research without the level of resources required to maintain a minimum training programme and institutional structure,

Deeply concerned that it has not been possible to sell the headquarters property of the Institute,

1. Notes with appreciation the report of the high-level independent consultant appointed by the Secretary-General, 2/ the comments thereon contained in the report of the Secretary-General 1/ and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 4/

2. Decides that the following interim measures should be taken pending consideration of the recommendations of the Secretary-General to be contained in the report requested in paragraph 5 below:

(a) The United Nations Institute for Training and Research should focus on providing training programmes and research activities related to training;

(b) The Secretary-General should consider taking appropriate measures related to the post of Director, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the high-level consultant;

(c) The Secretary-General is authorized to take the necessary steps with regard to the disposition of the headquarters building of the Institute, including its effective utilization or sale;

3. Requests that the budgetary proposals of the Institute continue to be submitted to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for review and comment prior to approval by the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

4. Reaffirms that the activities of the Institute that are not funded from the General Fund of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research shall continue to be funded through voluntary contributions mobilized as special-purpose grants from Governments, intergovernmental organizations, foundations and other non-governmental sources;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, on the basis of the recommendations of the consultant and the comments made thereon before the Second Committee, and in close consultation with the appropriate United Nations bodies, intergovernmental committees and offices of the Secretariat, and in collaboration with the Board of Trustees of the Institute, as well as consultations with interested Governments, to prepare a report for submission to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, which would, inter alia:

(a) Contain an analysis of the terms of reference, programmes and budgets and financing of all research and/or training institutes with aims similar to those of the Institute;

(b) Indicate the extent to which a system-wide rationalization of research and training can be effected and a consequent role for the Institute defined;

(c) Contain an analysis of the various options for the location of the Institute;

(d) Provide further analysis and information on the feasibility of utilizing the Institute for training in peace-keeping operations, taking note of the pilot programmes of the Institute;

(e) Indicate the results of such consultations as may be held with the Rector of the United Nations University on the proposals of the consultant to associate the Institute with the University;

(f) Propose ways and means to resolve the outstanding debt of the Institute to the United Nations;

(g) Conclude with a set of specific proposals on the future of the Institute, including its future financing, and the number and level of staff;

6. Requests the Secretary-General and the Institute, in accordance with paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 45/219, to consider, in consultation with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, financial mechanisms in order to finance the General Fund of the Institute in 1992;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to submit the report requested in paragraph 5 above and recommendations on the implementation of the present resolution in good time for action by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.118
10 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 77 (a)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Bozorgmehr Ziaran (Islamic Republic of Iran), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.57

Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of its resolution 44/214 of 22 December 1989 and all other relevant resolutions of the United Nations relating to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries,

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks impose serious constraints on the overall socio-economic development efforts of the land-locked developing countries,

Recognizing also that 15 of the 21 land-locked developing countries are also classified by the United Nations as least developed countries and that their geographical situation is an added constraint on their overall ability to cope with the challenges of development,

Recognizing also that most transit countries are themselves developing countries facing serious economic problems, including the lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector,

Recalling also that measures to deal with the transit problems of land-locked developing countries require close cooperation and collaboration between those countries and their transit neighbours,

Recalling the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, adopted on 10 December 1982, 1/

Recognizing the important role played by bilateral cooperative arrangements and regional and subregional integration in alleviating the transit problems of the land-locked developing countries and improving the transit transport systems in land-locked and transit-developing countries,

Noting the importance of strengthening the existing international support measures with a view to further addressing the problems of land-locked developed countries,

1. Reaffirms the right of access of land-locked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit States by all means of transport, in accordance with international law;

2. Reaffirms further that transit-developing countries in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for land-locked developing countries should in no way infringe their legitimate interests;

3. Calls upon both the land-locked developing countries and their transit neighbours, within the spirit of South/South cooperation, including bilateral cooperation, to implement measures to further strengthen their cooperative and collaborative efforts in dealing with their transit problems;

4. Appeals to all States, international organizations and financial institutions to implement, as a matter of urgency and priority, the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries envisaged in the previous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 2/ the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular, the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 3/ adopted at the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly, and the relevant provisions of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s; 4/

1/ Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3).

2/ See General Assembly resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990.

3/ General Assembly resolution S-18/3, annex.

4/ See A/CONF.147/18.

5. Invites the land-locked developing countries and their transit neighbours to further intensify their cooperative arrangements for the development of transit infrastructures, institutions and services to facilitate the movement of goods in transit with financial and technical assistance from donors and international agencies;

6. Emphasizes that assistance for the improvement of transport transit facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategy of the land-locked developing countries and that donor assistance should consequently take into account the requirement for long-term restructuring of the economies of the land-locked developing countries;

7. Urges donor countries and multilateral financial and development institutions to provide land-locked and transit-developing countries with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and transit infrastructures and facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications;

8. Requests the United Nations Development Programme, as appropriate, further to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes and to expand its support in the transport and communication sectors to the land-locked and transit-developing countries and its technical cooperation for development geared towards promoting national and collective self-reliance among them;

9. Takes note with appreciation of the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in formulating international measures to deal with the special problems of the land-locked developing countries, and urges the Conference to, inter alia, keep under constant review the evolution of transport transit infrastructure facilities, institutions and services, monitor the implementation of agreed measures, collaborate in all relevant initiatives, including those of private sector and non-governmental organizations, and serve as a focal point on cross-regional issues of interest to land-locked developing countries;

10. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to carry out, within the overall level of resources for the biennium 1992-1993, specific studies in the following areas, inter alia, bearing in mind the need to address the concerns for transit-developing countries, and to report on the results of the studies to the Trade and Development Board and the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session:

(a) Implications of high transit costs on the overall development of the land-locked developing countries;

(b) Identification of specific areas in the context of subregional and regional cooperation for the promotion and integration of transit infrastructure and services and harmonization of transit transport policies and legislation and the assessment of regional trade possibilities for the expansion of the trade sector of land-locked developing countries;

(c) Improvement of current transit insurance regimes;

(d) Application of new information technology to improve transit services;

(e) Identification of specific training needs to improve the managerial capacities and the skills of personnel involved in transit operations to ensure effective utilization of transit transport facilities;

(f) Development and expansion of all other alternatives and/or complements to ground transportation in order to improve the access of land-locked countries to foreign markets;

11. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and, where relevant, the executive heads of the subregional economic groupings, to convene subregional symposia/workshops of experts of land-locked and transit developing countries in 1992/93 on the basis of the studies cited in paragraph 9 above and in other relevant studies;

12. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to convene a meeting of governmental experts from developing land-locked and transit-developing countries and representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions in 1993 to review and propose appropriate concrete action to address the problems of land-locked developing countries, to be forwarded to the Trade and Development Board and the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, for appropriate action;

13. Calls on the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to take appropriate measures to enhance the capacity of the Conference, within existing resources for the biennium 1991-1993, in the area dealing with land-locked and island developing countries so as to ensure the effective implementation of the activities called for in the present resolution and of existing measures in support of land-locked developing countries;

14. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the progress being made to address the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries, 5/ and requests him to prepare another report, taking into account the provisions of the present resolution, for submission to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

5/ A/46/496 and Add.1.

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.119
10 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 81

EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Bozorgmehr Ziaran (Islamic Republic of Iran), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.38

International debt crisis and development: enhanced international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 41/202 of 8 December 1986, 42/198 of 11 December 1987, 43/198 of 20 December 1988, 44/205 of 22 December 1989 and 45/214 of 21 December 1990,

Reaffirming also the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990, and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, 2/

Taking note of Trade and Development Board resolution 396 (XXXVIII) of 4 October 1991, 1/

1/ A/46/15 (vol. I), chap. II, sect. A.

2/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

Welcoming the progress made in the context of recent developments in the evolving international debt strategy, which include debt and debt service reduction as a central element,

Welcoming also recent actions taken by the international community to reduce or cancel the official bilateral debt owed by least developed countries and other low-income countries, in support of their own adjustment efforts to stablize their economies,

Stressing the need to agree to proceed rapidly towards the implementation of recent initiatives and measures to reduce the stock of external debt and debt servicing and to provide debt relief,

Noting with appreciation the continued efforts to formulate and implement innovative and bold proposals and initiatives to address the debt problems, such as those taken under the Toronto terms, the Trinidad and Tobago terms, the Netherlands initiative, the French initiative, the Houston terms and the Enterprise for the Americas initiative,

Noting also with appreciation the recommendations contained in the report of the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General on debt, 3/

Noting further the proposals made by developing countries and regional organizations, including the Organization of African Unity and the Latin American Economic System,

Reiterating the need for an early and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries and for forestalling their proliferation,

Stressing also the need, in addition to debt relief measures which include debt and debt service reduction, for new financial flows to debtor developing countries,

Noting with interest the initial implementation of the rights accumulation approach addressing the problem of arrears, with regard to multilateral debt,

Welcoming also the increased cooperation among the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and other multilateral financial institutions and recognizing the need to avoid cross-conditionality,

Emphasizing the importance for debtor developing countries to continue to pursue and intensify their efforts in their stabilization and structural adjustment programmes,

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3/ A/45/380 and Corr.1, annex.

Expressing its concern that, in many developing countries, the burden of debt and debt service constitutes one of the major obstacles to the acceleration of growth and development and eradication of poverty, despite the often strenuous stabilization and structural adjustment programmes of these countries,

1. Urges Member States and multilateral financial institutions, within their prerogatives, to work towards an early, growth-oriented and development-oriented solution to the external debt problems, and, in this connection, urges them to intensify their efforts for the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/214;

2. Takes note with interest of the measures already taken by the international community and agrees that there is a need for continuing efforts, through the evolving international debt strategy in both the short term and long term, to achieve an early and durable solution to the external debt problems;

3. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his continuing efforts to promote understanding and to improve the relationship among debtor and creditor countries and multilateral financial institutions with a view to contributing towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries;

4. Emphasizes the importance for debtor developing countries to continue to pursue and intensify their efforts in their stabilization and structural adjustment programmes to raise savings and investment, reduce inflation and improve efficiency, taking into account their individual characteristics and the vulnerability of the poorer strata of their populations;

5. Recognizes the need of the debtor developing countries for a supportive international economic environment, including improved terms of trade, commodity prices, market access and trade practices, and, in this connection, stresses the urgent need for a balanced and successful outcome of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations which would result in the liberalization and expansion of world trade to the benefit of all countries, in particular the developing countries;

6. Stresses the need, in addition to debt relief measures which include debt and debt service reduction, for new financial flows to debtor developing countries, and urges the creditor countries and the multilateral financial institutions to continue to extend concessional financial assistance, as appropriate, in order to support the implementation by the developing countries of their stabilization and structural adjustment programmes so as to enable them to extricate themselves from the debt overhang and to assist them in achieving economic growth and development;

7. Urges creditor countries, private banks and, within their prerogatives, multilateral financial institutions to consider the extension of appropriate new financial support to developing countries, in particular the low-income countries with substantial debt burdens which continue to service the debt and meet their international obligations at great cost;

8. Also stresses the urgent need for additional debt relief measures, including further cancellation or reduction of debt and debt service related to official development assistance, as well as other official bilateral debt and debt service, in particular that of low-income countries, and welcomes, in this regard, the call by the Summit of the seven major industrialized nations for additional debt relief measures in favour of the poorest, most indebted countries that go well beyond the Toronto terms;

9. Also stresses the need for more urgent action with regard to the commercial debt owed by developing countries through increased efforts and improved access to and expanded use of existing facilities and arrangements, and encourages the continued consideration and, where appropriate, wider application of innovative measures, such as debt-for-equity swaps, debt swaps for the protection of nature and debt-for-development swaps, as contributions towards addressing the external debt problems of all indebted developing countries concerned;

10. Also takes note of the substantial debt relief and debt reduction agreed by the Paris Club in favour of two middle-income countries;

11. Also stresses the need for the continued examination, in the relevant forum, of appropriate debt-relief measures in favour of indebted low-income and lower-middle-income countries;

12. Recognizes the need for the multilateral financial institutions, within their prerogatives, to continue to explore effective measures to deal with debt owed by developing countries to these institutions;

13. Also recognizes the urgent need to continue to provide a social safety net to vulnerable groups most adversely affected by the implementation of economic reform programmes in the debtor countries, in particular low-income groups, in order to ensure social and political stability;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.120
10 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zambia: draft resolution

Adverse economic effects of Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied since 1967

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling Security Council resolution 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, General Assembly resolution 45/74 of 11 December 1990 and the other relevant resolutions affirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 1/ to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Expressing its concern at the ongoing establishment by Israel, the occupying Power, of settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory and other Arab territories occupied since 1967, and the settlement of new immigrants therein,

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1/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 2/

2. Deplores the establishment of settlements by Israel in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the other Arab territories occupied since 1967, and regards those practices as unlawful and therefore without any legal effect;

3. Recognizes that the continuing establishment of settlements and their ongoing enlargement in the Palestinian territory and the other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967 and the settlement of new immigrants have adverse consequences for the economic and social development of the Arab population of these territories;

4. Strongly deplores Israel's practices in the occupied Palestinian territory and other Arab territories occupied since 1967, in particular its extensive confiscation of land, its diversion of water resources, its depletion of the natural and economic resources of the occupied territories and its displacement and deportation of the population of those territories;

5. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and the population of the Syrian Golan to their natural and economic resources, and regards any infringement thereof as being without any legal validity;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the economic and social consequences of the establishment of settlements by Israel in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Syrian Golan to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session through the Economic and Social Council.

2/ A/46/263.

UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.121
11 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 82

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ioan Barac (Romania), on the basis of draft resolutions A/C.2/46/L.66 and A/C.2/46/L.69 and Corr.1

Operational activities of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of its resolutions 2688 (XXV) of 11 December 1970, 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975, 32/197 of 20 December 1977, 42/196 of 11 December 1987, 44/211 of 22 December 1989, S-18/3 of 1 May 1990 and 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening the operational activities for development of the United Nations system in accordance with those resolutions,

Reaffirming that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universality, their voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and multilateralism, and their ability to respond to the needs and concerns of the developing countries, at their request and in accordance with their development plans, priorities and objectives,

Noting with concern that progress in implementing parts of its resolution 44/211 has been disappointing, and stressing the need for more vigorous efforts to implement the resolution in areas in which the implementation has been unsatisfactory,

Recognizing the need to give guidance to the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation in the preparation of the report for the next triennial policy review of operational activities,

1. Takes note of the report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation on operational activities of the United Nations system; 1/

2. Reaffirms the importance of its resolution 44/211 and the need for coordinated and full implementation of the resolution by the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, taking into account the interrelationships among issues;

3. Also reaffirms the principal responsibility of Governments in managing programmes and projects supported by the United Nations system;

4. Takes note of decision 91/32 on support costs successor arrangements, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on 25 June 1991; 2/

5. Calls upon the international community, in particular donor countries, for a real and significant increase in resources for operational activities for development on a continuous, predictable and assured basis, and urges all countries to increase their voluntary contribution for operational activities for development;

6. Urges developed countries, in particular those countries whose overall performance is not commensurate with their capacity, taking into account established official development assistance targets, including targets established at the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, 3/ and present levels of contribution, to substantially increase their official development assistance, including contributions to the operational activities of the United Nations system;

7. Takes note of decision 91/27 on national execution, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on 21 June 1991; 2/

8. Stresses that the national execution modality should be the norm for programmes and projects funded by the United Nations system, taking into account the needs and capacities of developing countries;

1/ A/46/206-E/1991/93 and Add.1-4.

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 13 (E/1991/34), annex I.

3/ See A/CONF.147/Misc.9.

9. Also stresses the principal responsibility of developing countries in determining their capacity to execute programmes and projects funded by the United Nations system;

10. Calls upon the United Nations system to simplify the rules and procedures for national execution within the framework of enhanced accountability, particularly in order to minimize the Governments' administrative burden and the costs of managing projects and programmes;

11. Also calls upon the organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their efforts to assist developing countries, at their request, in developing their multisectoral, sectoral and subsectoral strategies, which should provide a framework for coordinated and coherent programming, and stresses the need to enhance the coherence of the response of the United Nations system to these strategies;

12. Reaffirms the continued validity of the resident coordinator system as detailed in the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and the urgent need to strengthen the effectiveness of the resident coordinator system;

13. Also reaffirms the need to improve cooperation between individual organizations at the field level;

14. Calls upon the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to utilize existing capacities to enhance the participation of nationals in projects and programmes;

15. Welcomes the proposal of the Director-General to undertake a feasibility study on a coordinated strategy of training for United Nations staff members and national officials involved in operational activities, and requests him to submit the study, with his recommendations, to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;

16. Urges the organizations of the United Nations system to continue and expand, within existing resources, their joint training programmes for United Nations country teams, and urges that these programmes be expanded to the country level and include Government officials;

17. Reaffirms the importance of the triennial policy review of operational activities to be undertaken by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, which should build on and, where necessary, elaborate further the elements of its resolution 44/211;

18. Requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review a section on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 44/211 and recommendations, where appropriate, with particular emphasis on the following:

(a) The harmonization and adaptation of the programme cycles of all funding agencies of the United Nations system to the planning periods of national Governments, with further consideration to the introduction of budgetary cycles on a rolling-cycle basis;

(b) The simplification of procedures relating to project formulation, appraisal, monitoring and evaluation, taking into account the need to focus on the impact and sustainability of projects and programmes;

(c) The improvement of programme evaluation and management audit systems, including the need for impact evaluation, with a view to assessing the efficiency, impact and sustainability of projects and programmes;

19. Requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review a further analysis of the concept of and recommendations on the integrated operational response of the United Nations system;

20. Also requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review, in consultation with recipient Governments and donors, an assessment and analysis of the progress made in the shift from a project to a programme approach, bearing in mind, inter alia, the work being carried out by the United Nations Development Programme in this regard;

21. Further requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review a discussion of the measures already taken and proposals for decentralization of capacity and authority to the country level, including budgetary flexibility and rationalization of functions between headquarters and field offices, combined with enhanced accountability, taking into account, inter alia, negotiations and decisions relating to the project cycle, procurement of equipment, provision of training and recruitment of personnel;

22. Requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review, in consultation with recipient Governments and donors, an analysis of the progress made on and recommendations to promote further national execution, taking the following into account in particular:

(a) Experience in utilizing national capacities and ways of promoting national participation in projects and programmes so as to maximize national capacity-building and to meet country-specific needs;

(b) Identification of systemic and institutional obstacles and disincentives in the operational activities for development of the United Nations system which impede the full implementation of national execution;

(c) Harmonization and simplification of procedures, aiming at a higher degree of transparency, and their adaptation to the needs of the developing countries;

(d) Improving accountability through training and development in national monitoring capacity, as well as in auditing and financial reporting;

(e) Ways of reorienting the technical capacity of the United Nations system to meet the needs identified by the developing countries, including measures in the areas of policy, technical support and the provision of information, including access to databases of the United Nations system;

23. Also requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review recommendations to strengthen the field representation of the United Nations system, with particular emphasis on the following:

(a) The team leadership role of the resident coordinator, including an assessment of the impact of the existing set of guidelines and recommendations for the strengthening of this role;

(b) The development of the capacity of the United Nations system at the country level to provide technical and substantive support to developing countries, inter alia through the establishment of multidisciplinary teams to meet country-specific needs;

24. Stresses, in the context of the triennial review, the need for a well-defined but flexible management process to guide the implementation of key measures in enhancing the effectiveness of operational activities;

25. Requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review an assessment of progress made in achieving common premises and to propose a plan for the full achievement of this objective, where feasible, that is appropriate and without any additional costs to developing countries;

26. Also requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review an assessment of and appropriate recommendations on the contribution of the operational activities of the United Nations system to the enhancement of national capacities of developing countries in the field of science and technology;

27. Reaffirms the importance of human development, and requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review an assessment of and appropriate recommendations for strengthening the support given by the operational activities of the United Nations system, at the request of developing countries, to sectors vital for human development;

28. Also requests the Director-General to include in his updated statistical report innovative and concrete recommendations to increase substantially procurement from developing countries, paying due respect to the principles of international competitive bidding and acknowledging the commitment to procurement from underutilized major donor countries in accordance with the principles of international competitive bidding, taking into account the standardization and compatibility needs of developing countries;

29. Requests the Secretary-General to make available to the Office of the Director-General the necessary resources, within the overall level for the biennium 1992-1993, to enable it to discharge its responsibilities in the implementation of the present resolution and General Assembly resolution 44/211;

30. Requests the executive heads of United Nations organs, organizations and bodies to cooperate fully with the Director-General and provide him with all necessary assistance, including secondment on a non-reimbursable basis, to enable him to prepare an action-oriented report.

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.122
11 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ioan Barac (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.21

Impact of recent evolution of East-West relations on the growth of the world economy, in particular on the economic growth and development of the developing countries, as well as on international economic cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, containing the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, as well as its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990, containing the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,

Recalling also its resolution 45/182 of 21 December 1990, on the convening of a special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with ministerial participation in 1991 to discuss the impact of the recent evolution of East-West relations on the growth of the world economy, in particular on the economic growth and development of the developing countries, as well as on international economic cooperation,

Taking note of the Declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77 on the occasion of their fifteenth annual meeting, held in New York on 30 September 1991, in which the Ministers welcomed the convening of the special high-level meeting, 1/

1/ A/46/520, annex, para. 4.

Taking note also of the debate, the views expressed by Member States and the concluding statement of the President of the Economic and Social Council at the special high-level meeting,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the convening of the special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with ministerial participation at Geneva on 4 and 5 July 1991;

2. Takes note of the report of the Economic and Social Council, in particular as it pertains to the special high-level meeting; 2/

3. Recognizes the need to enhance the positive aspects of the fundamental transformation in the central and Eastern European countries in their integration into the world economy;

4. Also takes note of the assurances given by the developed countries and multilateral financial institutions that the allocation of resources to the Eastern European countries would not reduce or divert the resources and aid, including food aid, allocated to the developing countries;

5. Urges Member States to continue to consider, where appropriate, triangular arrangements which would involve or benefit developing countries in the supply of the relevant requirements of the central and Eastern European countries, taking into account the structural transformation, needs and requirements of those countries;

6. Calls on the international community to consider assisting developing countries whose economies have been most affected by the recent changes in their economic relations with central and Eastern European countries to adapt to these changes;

7. Requests the Secretary-General, after reviewing the impact of the recent evolution of East-West relations on the growth of the world economy, in particular on the economic growth and development of the developing countries, as well as on international economic cooperation, to submit to the General Assembly, at its forty-seventh session, a report containing, inter alia, an analysis of the impact on developing countries of the measures taken to integrate central and Eastern European countries into the world economy, and on the full implementation of the present resolution.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/46/3/Rev.1), chap. II.

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/46/L.123
11 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 82

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.121

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 4 of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.121, the General Assembly would take note of decision 91/32 on support costs successor arrangements, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on 25 June 1991. 1/

2. It should be noted that the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, also on 25 June 1991, adopted decision 91/37, entitled "United Nations Population Fund: successor support cost arrangements". 2/ Both decisions of the Governing Council revise the existing support cost arrangements. The provisions of the present statement relate to both decisions.

3. The new arrangements proposed in the above-mentioned decisions of the Governing Council are complex. They are likely to have an impact on the United Nations regular budget and on the scope of the United Nations technical cooperation programmes. It is not possible at the present stage, however, to quantify and determine their impact. It should be noted in this regard that the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, 3/ including its programme support component, has been prepared on the basis of current support cost arrangements which are based on the reimbursement formula approved by the General Assembly in section V of its resolution 35/217 of 17 December 1980. It is essential, therefore, that the General Assembly bear this in mind as it reviews the successor arrangements for agency support costs.

4. The Secretary-General will continue to monitor the implementation of the new arrangements, and will advise Member States on their impact on programmes and regular budget resources in due course and submit appropriate recommendations, as necessary. In the meantime, the Secretariat will work constructively with all the agencies concerned to manage the change and implement the new scheme effectively, after its approval by the General Assembly. Both the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund arrangements offer transitional measures which, if enforced in their letter and intent, should facilitate the introduction of the new successor arrangements for agency support costs.

5. As regards the other operative paragraphs of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.121, the statement of programme budget implications issued in connection with draft resolutions A/C.2/46/L.66 and A/C.2/46/L.69 (A/C.2/46/L.115) continues to be relevant.

Notes

1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 13 (E/1991/34), annex I.

2/ Ibid.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vols. I and II.